

and honoring Lieutenant General Wilson and his thirty-two years of admirable service to the United States.

#### HONORING MRS. OCEY RICHMOND

##### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman who made her life's wages from cultivating and harvesting the land on which her family lived, Mrs. Ocey Richmond.

Mrs. Ocey Richmond was a sharecropper in Bolton, Mississippi. Dating back to as early as the 1950s, Mrs. Richmond farmed an area of about 15–20 acres of land, which was located not far from Bolton-Brownsville Road. Mrs. Richmond cultivated a number of crops, such as sweet potatoes, corn, peanuts, numerous other vegetables, and cotton.

As a sharecropper, a portion of her harvest was payment for her land and home, which was leased to her through the white-owned Gaddis & McLauren Seed and Feed Store. Not only were they able to sell their harvested crops, but they were also able to feed their families, making great use of their land.

Mrs. Richmond enlisted the help of other family members in assisting with the daily demands of cultivating and harvesting acres of land. Other members of her family, such as Deanna Hill and Clarence Richmond assisted her, helping to meet the demands and expectations of her sharecropping responsibilities.

By 1973, Mrs. Richmond ceased cultivating the land and moved from her leased property to another area within the Bolton community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Ocey Richmond for her impeccable cultivator talent.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2014*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on January 7 and 8, 2014 I was in New York and was absent for recorded votes on four measures—a quorum call, H.R. 724, H.R. 3527 and H.R. 3628. I would have voted “present” on the quorum call and “yes” on H.R. 724, H.R. 3527 and H.R. 3628 had I been here.

#### EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

##### HON. GLORIA NEGRETE MCLEOD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2014*

Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Senate voted to proceed with debate on an extension of long-term unemployment benefits. The ending of these benefits in December affected about 1.3 million people nation-wide, one in six of whom live in California. This extension of unemployment

benefits is needed for the constituents I represent.

Unemployment benefits keep individuals actively looking for work, increasing their chances of finding employment when jobs become available. They prevent families with a reduced income from becoming homeless.

Unemployment benefits allow families to continue spending which can create more opportunities for job growth in the future, and can reduce the need for such benefits once the economy recovers.

I ask that the Speaker work with the Senate and take up this extension.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF TOM D'AMORE

##### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2014*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great solemnity to share with you the recent death of Tom D'Amore.

Tom D'Amore was a vibrant fixture in Connecticut politics for over 40 years. Serving as the State Chairman for the Republican Party Connecticut from 1983 to 1987, Tom went on to run a number of successful campaigns for former Connecticut Senator Lowell P. Weicker. Most notably, Tom steered the former Republican Senator to victory as an independent candidate for the Connecticut Governorship in 1990.

Serving as Chief of Staff to Governor Weicker, Tom played a central role in helping the Governor pass the state's first broad-based income tax in 1991. Tom also worked with the Governor during his term to implement legislation for school desegregation, stronger gun laws, and health care reform.

With a vision for the nation and a passion for politics, Tom remained influential in state and federal politics after Governor Weicker left office. Starting a successful consulting business with former Speaker of the Connecticut House Richard Balducci and former colleague John Doyle, Tom advised on a range of candidate campaigns over his 30-year tenure.

As a family man from New Hartford, Connecticut, Tom is survived by his wife, his children, and his grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of Tom D'Amore, and sharing our condolences with the family and friends he leaves behind.

#### HONORING WALTER LEE WARE

##### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Walter L. Ware who is a remarkable public servant, Sunday School Teacher, and laborer for the church.

Mr. Walter L. Ware was born in Carroll County, Mississippi on September 19, 1943 to the late Granville and Myrtle Ruth Ware. To this union ten children were born, four girls and six boys. In 1983, his father passed away. Recently, his mother was honored by her fam-

ily when she turned the young age of 98 on April 21, 2013.

Mr. Ware attended Browning Elementary School. After elementary school, he attended and graduated from Amanda Elzy High School. Upon graduating from Amanda Elzy, Walter spent his summers up North working so that he could make some money to pay for his college education. He attended Coahoma Community College before transferring to Alcorn State University. At Alcorn he obtained his Bachelor's Degree. Later, he would obtain a Master's Degree from Mississippi Valley State University.

Mr. Ware is a very well known respected member of the Browning Community where he grew up and still lives. It is here, where in 1972, he began to raise cattle on over 200 acres of land. In 1999 he began to grow milo and soybeans.

He served as board member from 1983–1984 for the Mississippi Action for Progress.

He has received such awards as Teacher of the Year for the Leflore County School District, where he served as Social Studies teacher for 29 years before retiring. He has continued to drive the bus for the district for over 40 years. In 1984 he received an Outstanding Service to the Community Award. Later in 1998 the United States Department of Agriculture would honor him with a Certificate of Appreciation for his work in agriculture.

He is married to Earlean Maxwell. Together they are the proud parents of three sons and one daughter.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF AIR FORCE CAPTAIN DAVID L. LYON

##### HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 8, 2014*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, United States Air Force Captain David L. Lyon has given the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. He was assigned to the 21st Logistics Readiness Squadron, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, and gave his life for this country at the age of 28.

Capt. Lyon died while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. He was killed in action on December 27, 2013 in Kabul, Afghanistan when an improvised explosive device struck his patrol. Capt. Lyon is survived by his wife, Dana Pounds Lyon of Lexington, Kentucky; his parents, Bob and Jeannie Lyon; and his younger brother, Sean.

There is nothing as noble as the character of a man who so willingly dedicates his life for others. The American warriors serving our military, and their families, understand this better than anybody. They embody what it means to be an American.

Capt. Lyon grew up in Sandpoint, Idaho, with the ambition of graduating from the United States Air Force Academy and answering the call to serve his country. Capt. Lyon was a star athlete, acting as the team captain for the Air Force Falcon's track and field team, and winning a conference title in the shot put at the 2008 Mountain West Conference Indoor Championships. He met the love of his life, Dana Pounds, at the Air Force Academy, and they married shortly after graduating from the Academy.

Capt. Lyon was serving his first tour of duty in Afghanistan, and earned significant recognition with awards that include the Bronze Star